GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1588
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
TELEPHONE ON DEMAND IN RURAL AREAS
K. MURALEEDHARAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone connections are sanctioned to the applicants on demand in the rural areas of Kerala State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of infrastructural facilities for increasing the capacity of Telephone exchanges in Kerala State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): There is a waiting list of approximately 7.75 lakhs in Kerala. Hence, out of 793 rural telephone exchanges in Kerala state, telephone connections are sanctioned to the applicants on demand in only 29 rural exchanges.

(c) A net switching capacity of 563700 lines is planned for the year 2001-2002. The balance augmentation of capacity of telephone exchanges is planned for the year 2002-2003 subject to availability of funds.